REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-16 are cancelled, new claims 17-44 are presented for examination, and the specification is amended. Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 17-44 will be pending in this application.

New claims 17-44 are directed to methods of treating and preventing raised blood lipid levels. This subject matter was restricted from patent application No. 09/689,692 in a Restriction Requirement dated December 12, 2001. Support for new claims 17-44 can be found in claims 1-16 as originally filed. Accordingly, no new matter is added by claims 17-44.

The specification is amended solely to include reference to U.S. priority documents, and to eliminate unnecessary internal identification numbers of Assignee. Thus, no issue of new matter is raised by the amendments to the specification.

Applicants respectfully request consideration and timely allowance of the present claims. Please grant any petitions necessary to enter this Preliminary Amendment, and charge any necessary fees that are not submitted with this Preliminary Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 06-916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 8, 2003

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